

MARTYN SWAIN

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Audiofile Reviews

[The Secret Lives of Country Gentlemen](#)

[A Nobleman's Guide to](#)

[Seducing a Scoundrel](#)

[Modern Man in Search of a Soul](#)

Talent Profiles

[Audible Narrator Profile](#)

[Audiofile Narrator Profile](#)

[Ahab Talent Profile](#)

Languages

English – Mother tongue

French – Fluent, native level proficiency, speaking and writing

German – Strong proficiency, speaking and writing

Spanish – conversation

Profile

Multilingual professional with 30 years' experience in simultaneous interpreting in the frontline of multilateral diplomacy. Audiobook narrator with stage and screen experience; creator of animated content.

Experience

AUDIOBOOK NARRATOR (2018-present)

- Narration and production of audiobooks from professional home studio, using Adobe Audition to record, edit and master to Audible, download-ready specifications.
- Genres include: the Summa Theologica by Thomas Aquinas (2½ million words), philosophy and psychology, Sci-Fi, thrillers, romantic fiction and French children's stories.
- Clients, among others: Macmillan Audio ▪ Dreamscape Media ▪ Tantor ▪ Deyan Audio ▪ Recorded Books ▪ Lepton Productions ▪ Ukemi Audiobooks ▪ Spoken Realms ▪ Commonmode

Education

University of Cape Town

2008-2012: Master's Degree in Social Sciences, International Relations.

Heriot-Watt University

1976-1979: BA Hons Languages, Interpreting and Translating.

Key Skills

Audio Recording and Editing:

Adobe Audition

Animation: Vyond Studio

Script Writing and Storyboarding

Video Content Creation

Broadcast Communication Skills

SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETER (1980 -2020)

- Thirty years English and French bilingual active simultaneous interpreter at the frontline of multilateral diplomacy. Meetings ranged from summits of Heads of State and Government to highly specialised technical committees for UN Specialised Agencies (WHO, FAO, ILO, UNDP, UNEP) and field work.
- In 1990, interpreted personally for **Nelson Mandela** shortly after his release from prison.
- Staff interpreter, NATO HQ Brussels (1980-1985), interpreting ministerial summits, high level strategic planning fora, highly technical committee meetings and field trials.

CURRENT AFFAIRS RADIO JOURNALISM (1989- 1991)

- Writing and recording current affairs content for the National Broadcaster (SABC), for shortwave transmission overseas as well as local radio.
- Interviews with senior political figures within the newly unbanned ANC, among others.
- Research and content production in French and English. Content recording in French, English, German, Spanish and Dutch.

CHIEF PILOT, SADDLESORE (1985-1989)

- Travelled large tracts of the world by motorbike, including Africa, S America, N America, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Southeast Asia.
- Crossed the Atlantic by yacht and worked as a supernumerary on a container ship between the States and N Zealand.
- Animated slideshow of travels: [An End to The Means](#)

CREATIVE PROJECTS (1990- present)

- Creation of animated content aimed at helping people to talk to each other.
- Devised, scripted and narrated for Calliope Interpreters the short animation [Smart Speaking at International Meetings](#), produced by Triggerfish Animation studios in Cape Town. This animation has been sold under licence to many international organisations for speaker briefing.
- Devised, scripted, storyboarded and narrated the animation [Let Them Hear You](#) for the International Association of Conference Interpreters (aiic). The animation,

produced in collaboration with Triggerfish Animation in Cape Town, highlighted the importance of using your mother tongue to communicate.

- Produced, scripted, edited and narrated [Freedom Trails Video Route Guides](#) to walks on Table Mountain, a programme aimed at providing walkers and hikers with critical route and safety information when exploring the Table Mountain National Park on foot. This programme was used by South African Airways on incoming international flights.
- Creation of an animation using [Vyond Studio](#) for the German Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) aimed at briefing staff on new emergency communications protocols.

ACTING AND PERFORMANCE (1994-present)

Content narrated for e-learning, film documentary, and commercial promos. [Example](#)

- Member of a professional repertory theatre company (Bridge Theatre) for several summer seasons (1994-1998) of weekly repertory in Sheringham, Norfolk, performing a range of roles including Shakespeare and Ibsen, as well as modern and new plays.
- Appearances in film and television, as well as production management and on set interpreter for several international commercial shoots. Important insights gained into film and TV production processes.

PRESENTATION AND MEDIA HANDLING SKILLS TRAINING (1992-1994 and 2010 – 2012)

- Between 1992 and 1994, training received from [The Aziz Corporation](#).
- Creation and facilitation of Presentation and Media Handling skills workshops in Kigali, Rwanda and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for participants at meetings organised by Novartis on malaria control. The workshops were run in English and French.
- Testimonials for this and other work can be found on my [LinkedIn Profile](#)